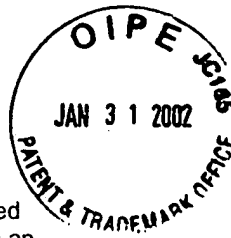


**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on



1/18/02  
Date of Deposit

Andrew D. Stover  
Name of Applicant, Assignee or  
Registered Representative

[Signature]  
Signature

1/18/02  
Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 659-867

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Price et al.

Serial No.: 09/899,808

Filing Date: July 5, 2001

For: REFASTENABLE ABSORBENT  
GARMENT

Examiner: To be assigned

Group Art Unit No.: 1772

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

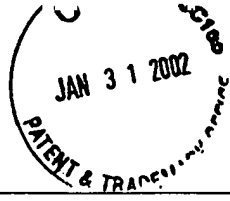
In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and



made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

No.	Date	Name
3,694,867	10/1972	Stumpf
4,340,563	7/1982	Appel et al.
4,704,114	11/1987	Wilson et al.
4,704,115	11/1987	Buell
4,743,241	5/1988	Igaue et al.
4,756,709	7/1988	Stevens
4,761,318	8/1988	Ott et al.
4,842,596	6/1989	Kielpikowski et al.
4,850,990	7/1989	Huntoon et al.
4,891,258	1/1990	Fahrenkrug
4,894,060	1/1990	Nestegard
4,963,140	10/1990	Robertson et al.
5,032,122	7/1991	Noel et al.
5,069,678	12/1991	Yamamoto et al.
5,242,436	9/1993	Weil et al.
5,256,231	10/1993	Gorman et al.
5,288,546	2/1994	Roessler et al.
5,312,387	3/1994	Rossini et al.
5,326,612	7/1994	Goulait
5,330,458	7/1994	Buell et al.
5,370,634	12/1994	Ando et al.
5,380,313	1/1995	Goulait et al.
5,399,219	3/1995	Roessler et al.
5,415,649	5/1995	Watanabe et al.
5,447,508	9/1995	Numano et al.
5,449,353	9/1995	Watanabe et al.
5,516,567	5/1996	Roessler et al.
5,540,796	7/1996	Fries
5,595,567	1/1997	King et al.
5,603,708	2/1997	Seth
5,616,394	4/1997	Gorman et al.
5,763,041	6/1998	Leak et al.
5,785,699	7/1998	Schmitz
5,795,350	8/1998	Schmitz
5,820,617	10/1998	Igaue et al.
5,830,206	11/1998	Larsson
5,836,932	11/1998	Buell et al.
5,845,375	12/1998	Miller et al.



5,858,515	1/1999	Stokes et al.
5,868,987	2/1999	Kampfer et al.
6,000,106	12/1999	Kampfer et al.
6,022,432	2/2000	Elsberg et al.
6,030,372	2/2000	Buell et al.
6,030,373	2/2000	Van Gompel et al.
6,036,805	3/2000	McNichols
Des. 427,677	7/2000	Bruemmer-Prestley
Des. 428,143	7/2000	Schmoker et al.
Des. 428,144	7/2000	Bruemmer-Prestley et al.
Des. 428,145	7/2000	Bruemmer-Prestley et al.
6,132,410	10/2000	Van Gompel et al.
6,132,660	10/2000	Kampfer
Des. 435,103	12/2000	Schmoker et al.
6,174,303	1/2001	Suprise et al.
6,190,594	2/2001	Gorman et al.
6,217,563	4/2001	Van Gompel et al.

#### FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY
EP 0 233 704	7/1992	EPO
EP 0 570 980	11/1993	EPO
EP 0 800 379 B1	10/1997	EPO
WO 92/22274	12/1992	PCT
WO 98/35642	8/1998	PCT
WO 00/35395	6/2000	PCT

#### OTHER PRIOR ART

1. Brochure, "Choosing the Right Absorbent Product for Your Needs," *Product Selection Guide*
2. Heller et al., U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/834,875 entitled "Method of Assembling Personal Care Absorbent Article," (KC 15,490), filed April 13, 2001
3. Price et al., U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/855,200 entitled "Absorbent Garment Having a Body Conforming Absorbent Composite," filed May 14, 2001
4. Van Gompel et al., U.S. Patent Application entitled "Expandable Absorbent Garment," filed May 14, 2001 (KC 15,960)

5. Van Gompel et al., U.S. Patent Application entitled "Absorbent Garment With An Extensible Backsheet," filed May 14, 2001 (KC 15,711 and 15,756) ,
6. Fell et al., U.S. Patent Application entitled "Absorbent Garment with Expandable Absorbent Element," filed May 14, 2001 (KC 15,688 and 15,689)(
7. U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/150,382 entitled "Pants, Refastenable Pants/Undergarments/Briefs Product Design and Process for Manufacturing on a Single Asset," filed August 23, 1999 (KC 14509) ,
8. U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/150,327 entitled "Refastenable Pant with Perforated Front Panels," filed August 23, 1999 (KC 14647) .

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

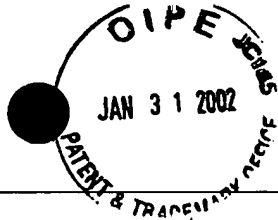
Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Stover', written over a horizontal line.

Andrew D. Stover  
Registration No. 38,629  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
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(312) 321-4200



FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 09/899,808	CASE NO. 659-867
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE July 5, 2001	GROUP ART UNIT 1772
(use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT(S): Price et al.

REFERENCE DESIGNATION			U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	3,694,867	10/1972	Stumpf		
	A2	4,340,563	7/1982	Appel et al.		
	A3	4,704,114	11/1987	Wilson et al.		
	A4	4,704,115	11/1987	Buell		
	A5	4,743,241	5/1988	Igaue et al.		
	A6	4,756,709	7/1988	Stevens		
	A7	4,761,318	8/1988	Ott et al.		
	A8	4,842,596	6/1989	Kielikowski et al.		
	A9	4,850,990	7/1989	Huntoon et al.		
	A10	4,891,258	1/1990	Fahrenkrug		
	A11	4,894,060	1/1990	Nestegard		
	A12	4,963,140	10/1990	Robertson et al.		
	A13	5,032,122	7/1991	Noel et al.		
	A14	5,069,678	12/1991	Yamamoto et al.		
	A15	5,242,436	9/1993	Weil et al.		
	A16	5,256,231	10/1993	Gorman et al.		
	A17	5,288,546	2/1994	Roessler et al.		
	A18	5,312,387	3/1994	Rossini et al.		
	A19	5,326,612	7/1994	Goulait		
	A20	5,330,458	7/1994	Buell et al.		
	A21	5,370,634	12/1994	Ando et al.		
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	A25	5,447,508	9/1995	Numano et al.		
	A26	5,449,353	9/1995	Watanabe et al.		
	A27	5,516,567	5/1996	Roessler et al.		
	A28	5,540,796	7/1996	Fries		
	A29	5,595,567	1/1997	King et al.		
	A30	5,603,708	2/1997	Seth		
	A31	5,616,394	4/1997	Gorman et al.		
	A32	5,763,041	6/1998	Leak et al.		
	A33	5,785,699	7/1998	Schmitz		
	A34	5,795,350	8/1998	Schmitz		
	A35	5,820,617	10/1998	Igaue et al.		
	A36	5,830,206	11/1998	Larsson		
	A37	5,836,932	11/1998	Buell et al.		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

JAN 31 2002

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FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 09/899,808	CASE NO. 659-867
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	FILING DATE July 5, 2001	GROUP ART UNIT 1772
APPLICANT(S): Price et al.		

## REFERENCE DESIGNATION

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A38	5,845,375	12/1998	Miller et al.		
	A39	5,858,515	1/1999	Stokes et al.		
	A40	5,868,987	2/1999	Kampfer et al.		
	A41	6,000,106	12/1999	Kampfer et al.		
	A42	6,022,432	2/2000	Elsberg et al.		
	A43	6,030,372	2/2000	Buell et al.		
	A44	6,030,373	2/2000	Van Gompel et al.		
	A45	6,036,805	3/2000	McNichols		
	A46	Des. 427,677	7/2000	Bruemmer-Prestley		
	A47	Des. 428,143	7/2000	Schmoker et al.		
	A48	Des. 428,144	7/2000	Bruemmer-Prestley et al.		
	A49	Des. 428,145	7/2000	Bruemmer-Prestley et al.		
	A50	6,132,410	10/2000	Van Gompel et al.		
	A51	6,132,660	10/2000	Kampfer		
	A52	Des. 435,103	12/2000	Schmoker et al.		
	A53	6,174,303	1/2001	Suprise et al.		
	A54	6,190,594	2/2001	Gorman et al.		
	A55	6,217,563	4/2001	Van Gompel et al.		

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	A56	EP 0 233 704	7/1992	EPO			
	A57	EP 0 570 980	11/1993	EPO			
	A58	EP 0 800 379 B1	10/1997	EPO			
	A59	WO 92/22274	12/1992	PCT			
	A60	WO 98/35642	8/1998	PCT			
	A61	WO 00/35395	6/2000	PCT			

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)
	A62 Brochure, "Choosing the Right Absorbent Product for Your Needs," <i>Product Selection Guide</i>
	A63 Heller et al., Patent Application entitled, "Method of Assembling Personal Care Absorbent Article," Serial No. 09/834,875 (KC15, 490), filed April 13, 2001
	A64 Price et al., Patent Application entitled, "Absorbent Garment Having a Body Conforming Absorbent Composite," Serial Number 09/855,200, filed May 14, 2001
	A65 Van Gompel et al., U.S. Patent Application entitled "Expandable Absorbent Garment," filed May 14, 2001 (KC 15,960)

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JAN 31 2002

Page 3 of 3

FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 09/899,808	CASE NO. 659-867
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	A67	Fell et al., "U.S. Patent Application entitled, Absorbent Garment with Expandable Absorbent Element," filed May 14, 2001 (KC 15,688 and 15,689)
	A68	U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/150,382 entitled "Pants, Refastenable Pants/Undergarments/Briefs Product Design and Process for Manufacturing on a Single Asset," filed August 23, 1999 (KC 14509)
	A69	U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/150,327 entitled "Refastenable Pant with Perforated Front Panels," filed August 23, 1999 (KC 14647)

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